increased or decreased after the recent visit of the External Affairs Minister to Dhaka; and

(c) what are the details of the new agreement relating to sharing of water with Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) The quantity of water released downstream of Farakka Barrage during January to May of last three years is as follows:

(i) 1988 11.8 million acre ft.
(ii) 1989 12.6 million acre ft.
(iii) 1990 10.9 million acre ft.

(b) and (c) As New Agreement has not been concluded, the releases have been in an ad hoc manner.

Constitution of a Tribunal to settle Cauvery Water dispute

*57. SHRI M. M. JACOB: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have referred the Cauvery Water dispute to a Tribunal to be presided over by a serving Judge of a High Court;

(b) if so, what are the terms of reference of the Tribunal along with the names of the other members, if any;

(c) what is the reaction of concerned States thereto; and

(d) by when the Tribunal is likely to submit its findings to the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Tribunal has been constituted with Shri Justice Chittatosh Mookerjee, Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court as the Chairman and Shri Justice S. D. Agarwal, Judge of the Allahabad High Court and Shri Justice N. S. Rao, Judge of Patna High Court as Members. The request made by the Government of Tamil Nadu under Section 3 of the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956, has been referred to the Tribunal for adjudication.

(c) All the four basin States have nominated their representatives for the work before the Tribunal and all the four States were present on the day of the 1st hearing held by the Tribunal on 28.7.1990.

(d) No time limit has been fixed.

Export Drive

*58. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently selected certain product groups to augment export drive; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what incentives/facilities are proposed to be provided to them to increase exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) Identification of Thrust Sectors based on India's comparative advantage for export promotion is a continuous process. The broad sectors identified for special thrusts in markets abroad are as under:—

1. Tea, especially in package and value-added forms; 2. Cereals, in particular wheat; 3. Processed foods, including fruits and juices, meat and meat products, and fresh fruits & vegetables; 4. Marine products, especially in value added forms; 5. Iron ore; 6. Leather and Leather manufactures with an emphasis on the latter; 7. Handicrafts and Jewellery; 8. Capital goods and consumer durables; 9. Electronics goods and computer software; 10. Basic chemicals; 11. Fabrics piece-goods and made-ups; 12. Readymade Garments; 13. Woollen fabrics and knitwear; 14. Projects and services; and 15. Granite.

The broad approach of the Government is to provide for a policy framework which is helpful in increasing exports, particularly in the thrust sectors. In this connection, Government has taken a series of measures to facilitate the increased capacity for export production especially to upgrade technology to make export sector more competitive through improved access to capital goods and raw materials at or near international prices and by providing fiscal and monetary incentives for exports. Simultaneously continuous dialogue is being maintained with the Export Promotion Councils and Commodity Boards. In addition, the Ministry holds regular Open House meetings where constraints faced by the exporters are discussed.

Scheme for flood control in Orissa

*59. SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Mihister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Orissa Government has submitted any scheme to the Central Government for flood control in that State;

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme and the expenditure to be incurred thereon; and

(c) what action the Central Government have so far taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) to (c) Recently, Mahanadi Delta Development Plan comprising among others flood control component envisaging protection to an area of 5.2 lakh hectares and a population of 30.25 lakhs at an estimated cost of about Rs. 123 crores has been received at the Centre. The proposal is under examination.

Modification of FERA Provisions

*60. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to modify FERA regulations to enlarge trade, ensure greater flow of foreign investment and to step up India's joint ventures abroad; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b) Government have no proposal at present to amend the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA), 1973. Guidelines issued under FERA are kept under review and suitable modifications are made from time to time to meet the requirements of trade, investment and Joint Ventures abroad, as necessary.

Implementation of irrigation advancement programme in Orissa

334. SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects undertaken with Central assistance under Irrigation Advancement Programme in Orissa during the Seventh Plan period; and

(b) the achievements made and the assistance given by the Central Government so far on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) and (b) Central assistance amounting Rs. 21.47 crores was given to the Government of Orissa under the Irrigation Advancement Programme during VII Plan for two projects viz. Mahanadi Delta Project and Tank Irrigation. As reported by the State, additional irrigation potential of 39,290 ha. has been created by the Mahanadi